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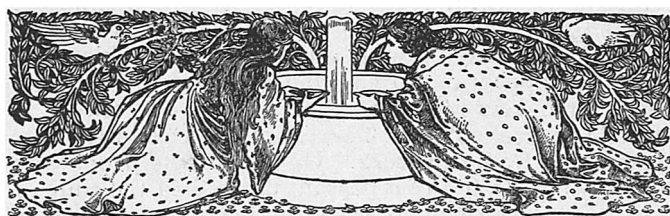
cushions there was a tapestry in wood colors, in which dark red leaves and a quaint design in pattern was the excellent plan. In this room there was a balancing table so well weighted that whichever way the ship turned it was always level.

In Mrs. Chubb's stateroom there was for the floor a carpet of splendid warm blue in which there was only a blending of these tints. As a wall covering there were leaf effects in delicate green set off by a yellow narcissus. These lovely hues were on a background of charming blue, while the cushions were in a tone of very light old rose. This combination, as an artistic effect, was peculiarly suitable for a lady's stateroom. The guest cabin was in another blue, but darker in tones of bluish green, and here and there a branch of small yellow blossoms. The cushions for the chart room were in a pattern of pomegranates of very dark reds, blues, and splendid browns. A heavy material in silk and wool that would stand the sea air and the ocean spray.

There is one thing to be said about Mrs. Collins that the rooms she furnishes have at least a livable atmosphere. They look as if they have been lived in, and are not places where a lot of artistic furniture has been set down and in which there is a great deal of show but very little comfort.

Mrs. Collins is a fine distinguished looking woman well built, with large dark expressive eyes, and a manner that is womanly in speech and agreeable.

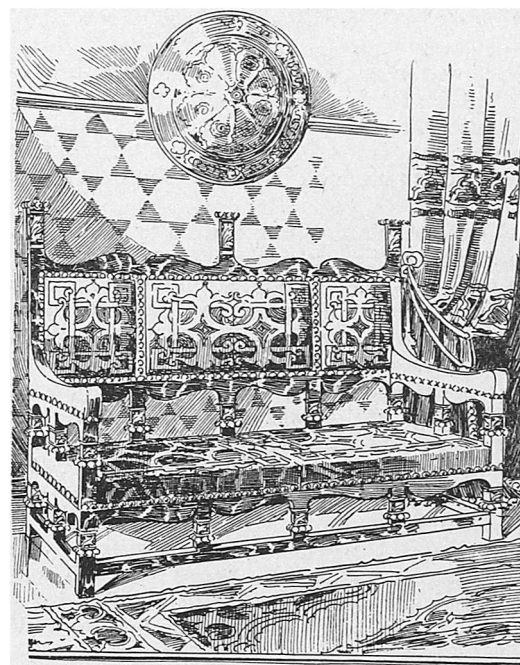
When asked about her work she will tell you she is never satisfied with herself, that there is much to be acquired before one really knows the art of interior decoration. She believes that women are as good in lines of business as men. And above all they have one quality which ensures for them many successes and that is a steadfastness of purpose, which never fails when a necessity is to be made. This clever woman also asserts "that simplicity in form is one of the true laws in decoration. That all principles in colors should be treated like those given by the able artist who understands the mixing of tints and blending of hues."



DECORATIVE NOTES.

A VERY dainty room in a simple cottage may be designed with ingrain paper in plain shades, mistletoe green or rose amber. A frieze nine inches deep decorated in a cretonne of the same color with silver or gold relief completes the wall. The ceiling may then be tinted a lighter tone of the wall color without further decoration.

A COMPOSITION for imitation of ivory, for decorative purposes, is made by gently boiling half an ounce of isinglass in a half pint of water till dissolved, then straining and adding flake white (basic nitrate of bismuth and a very little Naples yellow, oxide of lead and antimony). This is to be mixed with rice water and starch powder. Add to the work a final coat, and rub this with fine sandpaper to take off the gloss.



ARTISTIC HALL FURNISHINGS.

THE plan adopted in India and many tropical countries for cooling water and food—the use of damp cloths wrapped about a porous jar, or of an inverted flower pot—is now and then mentioned as a system that could be adopted with profit in this country. We would gladly avail ourselves of so simple a system of refrigeration were it possible, but unfortunately it is not. The reason that it is not is that there is not enough difference here between the dew point and the actual temperature of the air. In a dry climate, with a dew point thirty or forty degrees Fahr., effective cooling is in this way possible. The degree of cooling is indicated where water begins to be seen as dew on the outside of the vessel or glass containing it. In the eastern portion of the United States the amount of cooling that can be effected by evaporation is insignificant, in some cases only a few degrees.

LILAC is a difficult color to handle; it needs much pale yellow ochre and silver, and a very little crimson orange to make it amenable to decorative use. A self-colored paper or silk of warm yellow ochre, is uncommon and agreeable, but pale old rose or gobelin blue are more charming, but at the same time are more commonplace.

ON THE highest sanitary as well as on æsthetic grounds, suitably finished floors and rugs are to be preferred to heavy carpets to cover the floors. Where the floor is not adapted to rugs alone, a good quality of matting should be laid over the floor.

IN THE selection of rugs for the floor there is abundant opportunity for selection. Only those should be chosen which are light enough to be easily removed and beaten, but are yet heavy enough to lie on the floor. No Oriental rug should be shaken or whipped on a line. It should be laid on the grass and beaten with rattan beaters that come for the purpose. Rugs in a room in regular use should be cleaned in this way every week.